

Introduced: 3/20/79
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY McKINNON

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 412

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act providing for minimum standards for hospital
7 care."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 18.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 18.20.072. MINIMUM STANDARDS OF CARE. (a) Not later than 60
11 days after the effective date of this Act, each hospital shall provide
12 for the services of a hospital attending physician who shall

13 (1) provide emergency medical services to a patient of the
14 hospital or person seeking assistance from the hospital for an injury or
15 illness; and

16 (2) monitor hospital patients

17 (A) who are under intensive care at intervals not to
18 exceed two hours; and

19 (B) who are critically or seriously ill, or who are re-
20 covering from surgery, at intervals not to exceed four hours.

21 (b) In a hospital which has 40 or more beds, a hospital attending
22 physician shall be on duty at all times. In a hospital which has fewer
23 than 40 beds, a hospital attending physician shall be on duty or on call
24 in the near vicinity of the hospital at all times. For purposes of this
25 section, a "hospital attending physician" is a person licensed to prac-
26 tice medicine under AS 08.64, who may be a member of the medical staff
27 of the hospital or may be employed by the hospital.

28 (c) A member of the board of directors of a hospital or a hospital
29 administrator who fails or refuses to provide for the services of a

1 hospital attending physician in the manner required by this section is
2 guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine of not
3 more than \$1,000 and by imprisonment for not more than five years. Each
4 day that the violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

5 * Sec. 2. AS 08.64.380(3) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to
6 read:

7 (I) the wilful failure or refusal of a physician to
8 serve as a hospital attending physician when required to do so by a
9 hospital for the purposes described in AS 18.20.072.

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